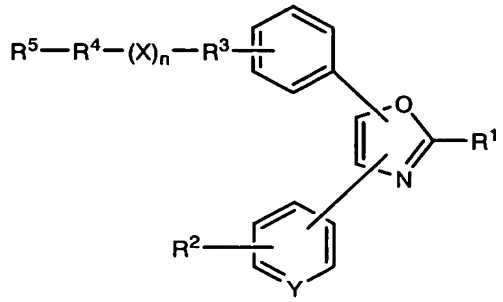
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later, (lower)alkenyl, (lower)alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, saturated heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later, (lower)alkenyloxy, (lower)alkynyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, (saturated heterocyclyl)oxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later on (lower)alkyl, [(lower)acyl]amino, cycloalkylamino, arylamino, (saturated heterocyclyl)amino, heteroarylamino, carbamoyl, carbamoyl substituted with substituent(s) (ii) described later, (lower)acyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, (saturated heterocyclyl)carbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, [(lower)alkyl]thio substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later, [(lower)alkyl]sulfinyl, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyl, cyano, carboxy, hydroxy, mercapto or halogen;

R^2 is (lower)alkyl, saturated heterocyclyl, (lower)alkoxy or cyano;

R^3 is (lower)alkylene, (lower)alkenylene, or covalent bond;

R^4 is (lower)alkylene, (lower)alkenylene, or covalent bond;

R^5 is hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, [tri(lower)alkyl]silyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonylamino, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonylamino, heteroarylthiocarbonylamino, carbamoylamino, carbamoylamino substituted with substituent(s) (ii) described later on carbamoyl, aryloxycarbonylamino (which may be substituted with substituent(s) (iii) described later on aryl), [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, hydroxy, cyano or azido;

X is "O", "S", "SO", or "SO_2";

Y is "CH" or "N";

n is 0 or 1;

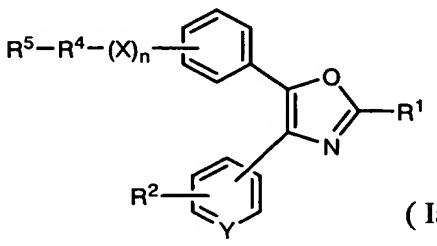
substituent(s) (i) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

substituent(s) (ii) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

substituent(s) (iii) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkoxy, nitro and cyano;

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. A compound of the formula (Ia):



(Ia)

wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later, (lower)alkenyl, (lower)alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, saturated heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later, (lower)alkenyloxy, (lower)alkynyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, (saturated heterocyclyl)oxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later on (lower)alkyl, [(lower)acyl]amino, cycloalkylamino, arylamino, (saturated heterocyclyl)amino, heteroarylamino, carbamoyl, carbamoyl substituted with substituent(s) (ii) described later, (lower)acyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, (saturated heterocyclyl)carbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, [(lower)alkyl]thio substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later, [(lower)alkyl]sulfinyl, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyl, cyano, carboxy, hydroxy, mercapto or halogen;

R^2 is (lower)alkyl, saturated heterocyclyl, (lower)alkoxy or cyano;

R^4 is (lower)alkylene, (lower)alkenylene, or covalent bond;

R^5 is hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, [tri(lower)alkyl]silyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonylamino,

[(lower)alkyl]sulfonylamino, heteroarylthiocarbonylamino, carbamoylamino, carbamoylamino substituted with substituent(s) (ii) described later on carbamoyl, aryloxycarbonylamino (which may be substituted with substituent(s) (iii) described later on aryl), [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, hydroxy, cyano or azido;

X is "O", "S", "SO", or "SO_2";

Y is "CH" or "N";

n is 0 or 1;

substituent(s) (i) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

substituent(s) (ii) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

substituent(s) (iii) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkoxy, nitro and cyano;

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3. The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein R^1 is (lower)alkyl substituted with halogen(s), or cycloalkyl.

4. The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein R^2 is (lower)alkoxy.

5. The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1, wherein R^3 is covalent bond.

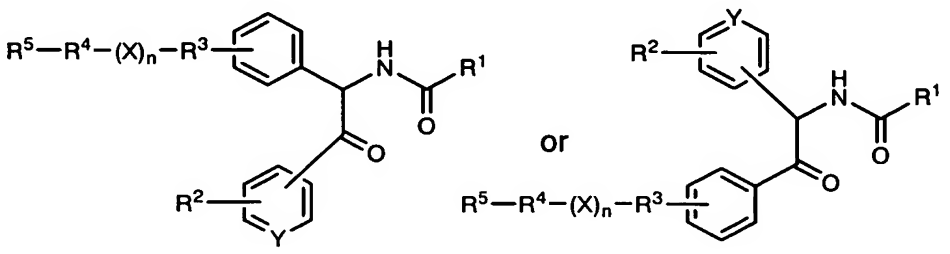
6. The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein R^4 is (lower)alkylene.

7. The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein R^5 is [(lower)alkyl]sulfonylamino, carbamoylamino or hydroxy.

8. The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein X is O; and n is 1.

9. A compound selected from
2-{4-[2-(Difluoromethyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy}ethanol,
2-{4-[2-(Difluoromethyl)-4-(6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy}ethanol,
N-(2-{4-[4-(6-Methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy}ethyl)methanesulfonamide,
N-(2-{4-[4-(6-Methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy}ethyl)urea,
2-{4-[2-Cyclopropyl-4-(6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy}ethanol and
N-(2-{4-[2-Cyclopropyl-4-(6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy}ethyl)methanesulfonamide.

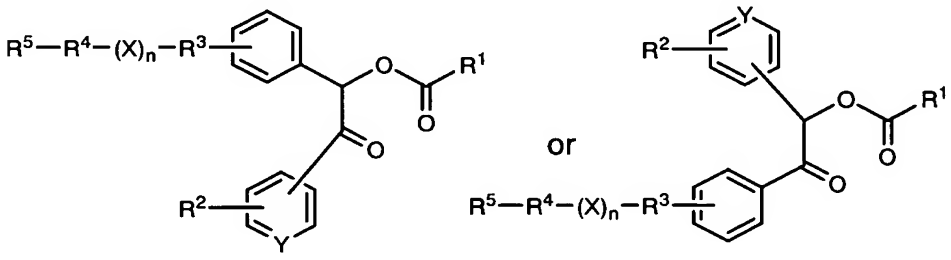
10. A method for producing the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1, which comprises reacting compound (II) with phosphorus oxychloride or triphenylphosphine.



(II)

wherein R^1 to R^5, X, Y and n represent the same meanings.

11. A method for producing the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1, which comprises reacting compound (III) with ammonium.



(III)

wherein R^1 to R^5, X, Y and n represent the same meanings.

12. A compound of Claim 1, 2 or 9 for use as a medicament.

13. The compound of Claim 12 for use in the treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory conditions, various pains, collagen diseases, autoimmune diseases, various immunity diseases, thrombosis, cancer or neurodegerative diseases in human beings or animals.

14. A medicament comprising the compound of Claim 1, 2 or 9 as an active ingredient.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 1, 2 or 9 as an active ingredient, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

16. A method for treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory conditions, various pains, collagen diseases, autoimmune diseases, various immunity diseases, analgesic, thrombosis, cancer or neurodegerative diseases which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound of Claim 1, 2 or 9 to human beings or animals.

17. Use of the compound of Claim 1, 2 or 9 for treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory conditions, various pains, collagen diseases, autoimmune diseases, various immunity diseases, analgesic, thrombosis, cancer or neurodegerative diseases in human beings or animals.

18. An analgesic agent comprising the compound of Claim 1, 2 or 9, which is usable for treating and/or preventing pains caused by or associated with acute or chronic inflammations.

19. The analgesic agent of Claim 18, which is usable for treating or preventing pains caused by or associated with rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, lumbar rheumatism, rheumatoid spondylitis, gouty arthritis, juvenile arthritis; lumbago; cervico-omo-brachial syndrome; scapulohumeral periarthritis; pain and tumescence after operation or injury.

20. A commercial package comprising the pharmaceutical composition containing the compound (I) identified in Claim 1, 2 or 9 and a written matter associated therewith, wherein the written matter states that the compound (I) can or should be used for preventing and/or treating inflammatory conditions, various pains, collagen diseases, autoimmune diseases, various immunity diseases, analgesic, thrombosis, cancer or neurodegerative diseases.